

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8704

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, ENRG, JA

SUBJ: JCP CHAIRMAN MIYAMOTO SPEAKS ON MIDDLE EAST QUESTION

SUMMARY: JCP CHAIRMAN MIYAMOTO PROPOSED TUESDAY THAT JAPAN
INVOKE SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL UNDER U.N. CHARTER ARTICLE
41. END SUMMARY.

1. JAPANESE PRESS WEDNESDAY REPORTED SUGGESTION BY JCP CHAIR-
MAN KENJI MIYAMOTO THAT JAPAN APPLY NON-MILITARY SANCTIONS
AGAINST ISRAEL UNDER U.N. CHARTER ARTICLE 41 AS SPECIFIC
MEANS OF MEETING ARAB DEMANDS FOR ACTION TO SUPPORT RECENT
PRO-ARAB STATEMENT BY GOJ. MIYAMOTO, SPEAKING BEFORE JAPAN
NATIONAL PRESS CLUB (NIPPON KISHA CLUB) DECEMBER 11, EX-
PLAINED THAT THIS PROPOSAL BASED ON JCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE
DECISION. PRESS NOTED THAT ARTICLE 41 PROVIDES FOR NON-MILI-
TARY SANCTION, INCLUDING PARTIAL OR COMPLETE INTERRUPTION OF
RAIL, SEA, AIR, POSTAL, TELEGRAPHIC, RADIO, AND OTHER FORMS
OF COMMUNICATION, AND SEVERANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO
ENFORCE U.N. DECISIONS, SUCH AS U.N.S.C. RESOLUTION 242.

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2. MIYAMOTO STATED THAT ARABS HAVE ASKED JAPAN TO DO MORE THAN EUROPEANS BECAUSE JAPAN IS MEMBER OF AFRO-ASIAN COMMUNITY. AS SUCH, HE SAID, IT NATURAL THAT JAPAN TAKE EVERY POSSIBLE STEP TO PRESSURE ISRAEL INTO WITHDRAWING FORCES FROM OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES. HE NOTED THAT 31 AFRICAN AND 10 ASIAN NATIONS, AS WELL AS ALL SOCIALIST NATIONS, HAVE ENFORCED SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL. HE CALLED FOR PALESTINIAN SELF-DETERMINATION TO ACHIEVE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, BUT ALSO STATED THAT JCP DOES NOT DENY RIGHT OF JEWISH STATE TO EXIST. MIYAMOTO EXPLAINED THAT JCP DOES NOT PROPOSE SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL AS MEANS OF BEGGING ARABS FOR OIL, BUT AS MEANS OF PROMOTING MIDDLE EAST PEACE.

3. OIYAMOTO ALSO SUGGESTED THAT JAPAN CONSIDER IMPORTING OIL DIRECTLY FROM PRODUCERS INSTEAD OF THROUGH MAJORS.

4. MIYAMOTO WARNED THAT JAPAN WOULD FACE SIMILAR CRISES IN FUTURE, EVEN AFTER CURRENT OIL CRISIS SHOULD BE SOLVED, IF NATION CONTINUES PRESENT EXCESSIVE ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE ON US.

5. COMMENT: THIS FIRST MAJOR STATEMENT OF MIDDLE EAST POLICY APPROVED BY JCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE IS CONSISTENT WITH LONG-TERM JCP POLICY OBJECTIVE OF SEEKING TO REALIGN JAPAN WITH AFRO-ASIAN NATIONS, WHICH IN PAST HAS NOT PROVED TO BE ATTRACTIVE TO JAPANESE. NEVERTHELESS, AMAZING COINCIDENCE BETWEEN MIYAMOTO STATEMENT AND POSITION TAKEN BY GOJ SPECIAL ENVOY TO MIDDLE EAST, TAKEO MIKI, I.E., THAT JAPAN NOT BEGGING FOR OIL BUT SEEKING TO HELP TO ACHIEVE PEACE, SHOWS THAT JCP MAY BE SEEKING TO ROOT SELF IN BROADER NATIONAL CONSENSUS NOW TAKING SHAPE. END COMMENT.

SHOESMITH

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